

REMARKS

Claim 9 was objected to. Claims 9-11, 13, 14, and 17 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by Hashimoto (US Pat. No. 6,483,718). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Hashimoto. Claim 15 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Hashimoto in view of Moshayedi (US Pat. Appn. No. 2004/0212071 A1). Claim 16 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Hashimoto in view of Moshayedi and further in view of Isaak (US Pat. No. 6,472,735).

Claims 1-8 and 19-20 were allowed. Claim 18 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The limitations of allowable claim 18 are being incorporated into independent claim 9, without the limitations of the intervening claims. Claim 9 is also being amended to correct the informality noted in the claim objection.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-17, 19-20, as amended, are in a position for allowance. This application was filed with formal drawings that have not been amended. Applicant believes that a full and complete response to the office action has been made. Reconsideration and re-examination is respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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